

***“I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through Me.”***

John 14: 1-6

Have you ever turned the wrong way down a one-way street. It's scary and dangerous until you turn around and start going in the correct direction. The other thing is that you feel embarrassed and like a fool. There are communities that are designed with only one way in and one way out. They are designed like this for security, it's all good until you get turn around and can't find the correct road to get out. I got myself lost when I visited a friend that had just moved into such a community, it took me thirty minutes to find the right street to get out of there. I tell you I was frustrated, one dead end after another and on top of that I didn't have my friends new phone number to call for help.

Our passage today has a big One-Way sign on it, but in this case it is the way to heaven where joy and peace and love reign and you are in the presence of Jesus and His glory that shines all around.

When first read, this verse can come across as very narrow minded and narcissistic. **But when we read** the correct way, as an invitation into a life of everlasting peace, joy and contentment coming from the ALL-Loving risen Savior, it changes the meaning completely. Christ here is laying out the path of the resurrected life **in Him**. Jesus is telling His disciples, which include all those who put their trust in Him and are Born Again, that there is no other **Way** to heaven, no other **Truth that opens the door to eternal Life with Him** except through Him. **He is the ONLY WAY, there is none other, not works,** or keeping the 10 Commandments, or ordinances, or church membership or even

being a “good person” and keeping the Golden Rule. No other way, Only Jesus.

This is a path that leads the way to true peace that comes from the realization of total forgiveness of ALL the sins that we have ever committed our whole life.

Christ gives us this promise of an eternal personal relationship with Him and that He will never leave us nor forsake us, EVER! This **life** that is offered is an *abundant life* filled with an eternal Joy that is backed by the Creator and Sustainer of ALL that exists, **that is a guarantee you will never find anywhere else.**

And finally, **Jesus is the way** to everlasting Love that empowers us to overcome ALL that tries to separate us from His Love.

The Apostle Paul expounds on this amazing Truth in, I’m reading from the NLT,

Romans 8:34-39, “Who then will condemn us? **No one**—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and He is sitting in the place of honor at God’s right hand, pleading for us.

Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean He no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.”)

No!, despite all these things, **overwhelming victory is ours through Christ**, who loved us.

*And I am convinced that nothing **can ever** separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing **in all***

creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

PK- That is a huge promise that is freely given, a promise that must be received by accepting and surrendering your life to Jesus Christ as your Risen Lord and Savior, believing that the sacrifice that He made upon the Cross was for everyone who believes, including YOU.

If you are hearing this message today and have not surrendered your life to Jesus Christ as your **Lord**, which means Jesus will be your All-Knowing Perfect Leader, and **believe** that Jesus is the **Savior** of your life, which means that **you believe** that Jesus’ perfect physical sacrifice upon the cross paid the price for all your sins, past, present and future and you desire that Jesus forgive you and come into your life today, **Now is The Time and Today is The Day of Salvation** to Pray to Jesus to accept His free gift of eternal Life.

If you want to accept the free gift Jesus is offering you today, just pray after me,

(George/Dan, please put this up, line by line, Thanks)

- “Jesus, I am a sinner in need of a Savior,
- I know that I don’t deserve Your forgiveness and love,
- I believe that you died on the cross and paid the price for all my sins,
- past, present and future.
- I surrender my life to You today,
- I ask that You come into my life and be my Savior, my God and my Lord,
- From this day forward.
- In Jesus precious name I pray, **Amen.**”

If you prayed this prayer today, I want to be the first to welcome you into the family of God and into your new life in Jesus Christ and

encourage to call today to receive a New Believer's packet. Just call **505-896-2990**.

PK- Praise the Lord! Now let's take a good look at this verse to find out what Jesus said and meant and how this applies to my life, today in the year of our Lord, 2022.

John 14:6, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

The great reformer, John Calvin comments on this verse, "The statement amounts to this, that whoever obtains Christ is in want of nothing; and, therefore, that whoever is not satisfied with **Christ alone**, strives after something beyond absolute perfection."

PK- I whole heartedly agree with Calvin here, all we need is Jesus! You cannot improve on perfection! And why would you want to try to improve on the perfect sacrifice Christ made for us?

So what is Jesus saying here? Let's look at the context of the verse to get a better understanding.

Jesus spoke this in the upper room on the night of the Passover Feast known as the Last Supper. This preceded Judas' betrayal and Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane hours later, which would lead to His death upon the cross at Mt. Calvary.

Jesus wanted to comfort His disciples knowing what was to come. Jesus also shows here that He knew the feelings and fears that the disciples had and wanted to assure them of His love and provision for them, oh, and for us, His disciples today. So we begin in,

John 14:1-3, *"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in Me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am."*

PK- Jesus starts the chapter with a comforting word, He directs His disciples to **trust and believe in Him**. This is no different than what is required of us today. Paul when writing to the church at Philippi conveyed this same message,

Philippians 4:6-7, *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

PK- Jesus doesn't expect us to live this life out on our own, He promises to answer our prayers and needs, as we follow Him.

He follows this with the claim of equality with God, ***“Trust in God, and trust also in Me.”***

Noah Webster defined Trust as, “to comfort, that is, to strengthen; confidence; a reliance or resting of the mind on the integrity, veracity, justice, friendship or other sound principle of another person.”

PK- Does this not define many of the attributes that Jesus has, but we can take it to another level.

Proverbs 29 says, *“He that puts his **trust** in the Lord shall be safe.”* No fear or worry but only **trust**.

PK- Jesus continues with some very exciting promises for all of us,

John 14:2-3, *“There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am.”*

PK- Jesus draws back the curtain a little for us to see what our future holds for us in heaven and that when the time is perfect, Jesus will come back to get His bride, the Church, to be with Him forever.

This also assures the believer that if we die before He comes back, we have a home waiting for us in heaven with Jesus. How can we have any fear of death with such an awesome promise as this?

This also speaks of the fact that Jesus is truly coming back.

The great theologian John Walvoord comments,

“I will come back refers here, not to the Resurrection or to a believer’s death, but to the Rapture of the church when Christ will return for His sheep (cf. 1 Thes. 4:13–18) and they will be **with** Him (cf. John 17:24).”

PK- Because of time limits we can’t go further into this but let it be said that the Rapture is clearly seen within the end-times writing of Holy Scripture. For more on this refer to the many books of Dr. Walvoord on the subject.

The next few verses give us some great insight into how open the relationship between the disciples and Jesus was, they felt very comfortable asking questions of what Jesus was teaching them.

This should assure and encourage us also to seek the answers to the questions that we might have as we study God’s word. There is nothing wrong with asking questions with a sincere heart.

Proper interpretation is interpreting Scripture from Scripture by the teaching of the Holy Spirit. God wrote the Bible so He should be the one to teach it to His disciples.

Jesus now makes a statement that the disciples drew a blank on, even though Jesus had been teaching and showing them the way to the Father all along. The questioning Thomas, of all people sought clarification from Jesus.

John 14:4-5, *“And you know the way to where I am going.”*

“No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

PK- I love how direct Thomas is, he isn't afraid to admit that he doesn't understand. I don't believe for a minute that Thomas was being disrespectful to Jesus, I think that he honestly did not get what Jesus was saying and Thomas knew this was really important stuff. So Jesus give us one of the great monumental statements in all of Scripture,

John 14:6, "*Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."*

David Guzik clarifies what Jesus said, "Jesus didn't say that He would *show us* a way; He said that **He is the way**. He didn't promise to *teach us* a truth; He said that **He is the truth**. Jesus didn't offer us the secrets to life; He said that **He is the life**."

PK- Jesus opens with His name, I Am...

Exodus 3:14 "And God said to Moses, "***I AM WHO I AM.**" And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, '**I AM** has sent me to you."*

PK- Jesus' way is not the way we would have done things. Going to the cross to die appears to our thinking a loose, an end to the ministry, not a perfect solution to the problem at hand. No His ways are perfect ways because God is omniscient, ALL Knowing.

Isaiah tells us:

Isaiah 55:8-9, "*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways **My ways**," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are **My ways** higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts."*

Calvin states "***The way, the truth, and the life**. He lays down three degrees, as if He had said, that He is the beginning, and the middle, and the end; and hence it follows that **we ought to begin with Him, to continue in Him, and to end in Him.**"*

Heb 10:20 "*by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,*"

PK- What else do we need for a full abundant eternal life but Jesus Himself being the Way into heaven. Salvation can only be found in Christ.

Acts 4:12, *“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”*

John 10:7-9, *“Then Jesus said to them again, **Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.**”*

Jesus' words, **I am the Way and the Truth and the Life**, are the sixth of Jesus' seven **“I am”** statements in the Gospel of John (6:48; 8:12; 10:9, 11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1).

PK- Moses sought the way of God,

Ex 33:13 *“Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, **show me now Your way**, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight.”*

Jesus is the Truth...

John 17:17 *“Sanctify them by Your **truth**. Your word is **truth**.”*

And Jesus is the Word,

John 1:14, *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

Matthew Henry, one of the great preacher of the past wrote speaking of **Jesus as the Truth and the Life**,

*“He is the truth (1.) Christ is **the true manna** (ch. 6:32), **the true tabernacle**, Heb. 8:2. (2.) As truth is opposed to falsehood and error; the doctrine of Christ is **true doctrine**. When we enquire for truth, we need learn no more than **the truth as it is in Jesus**.*

(3.) As truth is opposed to fallacy and deceit; **He is true** to all that trust in Him, as true as truth itself,

He is **the life**; for we are *alive unto God* only in and *through Jesus Christ*,

Romans 6:11, “Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but **alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**”

PK- Christ formed in us, is that to our souls which our souls are to our bodies. Christ is **the resurrection and the life.**”

6b, “*No one can come to the Father except through Me.*”

In closing Dr. Walvoord brings it all together,

“Jesus is the “*Way*” because He is the “*Truth*” and the “*Life.*” As the Father is Truth and Life, Jesus is the embodiment of God so people can come to the Father.”

PK- Many in the world today have believed the lie that there are many ways to heaven and the Father but here in God’s Word we find that there is **only One Way** to the Truth that leads to eternal Life and that is through the Word Himself, Jesus Christ the one and only Son of God, I Am the Way, I Am the Truth and I Am the Life, I AM ALL that you need for a Life eternally with Jesus.

Let’s Pray